

28 November 1978

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MEMORANDUM FOR:

RMS/PGO

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FROM:

Chief, Plans and Policy Branch
Office of Public Affairs

SUBJECT:

Public Affair's Input to the
DCI's Annual Report

1. We have received your draft re-write of the Public Affairs section of the DCI's Annual Report and have no objections to it as written.

2. Minor corrections are noted on pages 2 and 4 for which Joanne will love me.

3. As we discussed, we are prepared for you to examine our inventory of photographs at your convenience.

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Attachment:
draft Annual Report

*Pat -
pls. note Charles
adjustments (+ my one)
+ file. G
Thanks.*

*Joanne
30 Nov 78*

21 November 1978

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I. 1978 in Intelligence

G. Intelligence and the Public

We in intelligence have sensed a favorable shift in both editorial and public opinion during the last year. There is an apparent growing view that the Community has been searchingly subjected to criticism and should now be free to do its job with appropriate oversight. Evidence comes in mail from the public sector, expressions of confidence from groups that I and others have addressed, and in a number of editorials from newspapers around the U.S. In addition, a number of media and other public expressions of outrage have been leveled against those who knowingly expose intelligence operations and people, and frustration at the legal and practical barriers that prevent the Government from taking action against them.

Last year the Intelligence Community stepped up its policy of openness and candor with the public. Our policy acknowledges the realities of 1978. Public insistence on the right to participate more fully in government was forged during the Vietnam years, sharpened by Watergate, and honed to a fine edge by investigations and exposures of the past. Wherever possible we seek opportunities where candor can improve public understanding of our essential role in government without endangering sensitive sources and methods.

In this connection, I delivered 38 speeches, up from 25 in the previous year. My Deputy, Frank Carlucci, although only a recent arrival, made 10 public speeches. Typical audiences have been college student bodies, professional and trade associations, ^{business groups} and media. ^{and}

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business groups.] While these appearances have taken place all across the country, we began late in the year to concentrate such efforts in parts of the country where experience indicates the true role and value of intelligence is least understood. We also imposed upon ourselves a fairly heavy schedule of media interviews (15), news conferences and meetings with newspaper editorial boards (16), radio and television and media event appearances (9), and ^aappearances before several institutional groups who visited us at Langley. a
^

Thirty-two separate public groups--involving several thousand people--visited the CIA headquarters in 1978. The majority of these visits were conducted after normal working hours and were carefully controlled to meet security considerations. Typical were alumni groups from Yale, MIT and Michigan; the annual convention of the National Newspaper Association; and the Young President's Organization. ;

Mindful of my responsibility as principal spokesman for the Community, formalized for the first time in Executive Order 12036 in January of 1978, I always discuss the Intelligence Community as well as CIA on such occasions. We have and will continue to underscore problems of vital concern to the entire intelligence effort; security leaks, the inadequacy of existing sanctions to protect classified information, the progress made toward "charters" legislation and the adequacy of present oversight. In all public appearances I discuss the President's Intelligence Oversight Board and the beneficial relations with the intelligence committees of Congress. I have this

year formally charged my Director of Public Affairs to support me in both my Community responsibilities as DCI and as Director of the CIA. Individual agency and departmental public affairs officials within the Community meet together with him regularly to discuss subjects of common concern. INR substantive officers have long represented the Department of State in public discussions of U.S. foreign policy throughout the country, and INR is continuing this important public policy support function.

Having come out from under the "no comment" umbrella, we find that we are answering more queries from the press. In 1978 we responded to 2,200 queries. Our willingness to share information increased our credibility with the media. The response was particularly gratifying in October when I spoke to the National Press Club and drew a parallel between intelligence and the media regarding the protection of sources.

We are now sharing more of our analytical product with all Americans. Since early 1972 CIA has made available some 550 biographic aids, economic research aids, political and military publications, wall charts, atlases and factbooks, and bibliographic publications. In 1978 alone, some 130 publications of these kinds were released. For several years these unclassified publications have been made available through the Library of Congress and have been distributed to some 1,300 Federal Depository Libraries nationwide. Some of our maps, atlases and research materials have also been made available through the Government Printing Office. In an effort to increase the availability of such documents at more realistic prices, we have

contracted with the Department of Commerce's National Technical Information Service to improve and simplify distribution to the public.

In 1978 the CIA further increased its contacts with the academic world and vigorously undertook ^a campaign to improve relations between the intelligence and academic communities. There are still academic specialists who are fearful that association with the intelligence world will have adverse effects on their careers, still some academic institutions in which relations with intelligence agencies are viewed with administrative reserve, and still some campuses on which anti-intelligence student activists find responsive audiences. The atmosphere overall has greatly improved, however, and it would be inaccurate to say that the work of the Intelligence Community is seriously hampered by such sources of friction that remain. [^]

Symptomatic of improved relations with academia has been the success of a program, begun in February of 1978, of hosting university presidents at CIA headquarters to discuss mutual interests and problems. Those who visited in 1978 were the presidents of the Universities of Washington, Minnesota, Pittsburgh, Wisconsin, Miami, Louisiana State, Tulane, Johns Hopkins, Swarthmore and Virginia Polytechnic Institute; and the president of the American Council on Education. We plan to expand this program in 1979.

DIA has this past year assisted in U.S. Government efforts to account for remaining U.S. personnel lost in Southeast Asia: preparing 94 negotiating folders for Department of State's use with Vietnam and Laos; reviewing and documenting 417 cases of personnel

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still carried as missing in action or prisoners for the military services' use in resolving their status; aiding in identification of the remains of prisoners of war returned to the U.S. last August from Vietnam; initiating with Army a program to debrief selected Vietnamese refugees in the U.S. to confirm or negate recent reports of the existence of live American prisoners in Vietnam.

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